

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A medical device, comprising:

a body portion having a first end portion and a second end portion and being defined by a structure including a plurality of pairs of converging struts;

a first cuff, the first cuff being attached to the first end portion;

a second cuff, the second cuff being attached to the second end portion;

at least one shoe device, the shoe device being configured at one pair of converging struts to maintain the struts in a spaced relationship; and

wherein the first and second cuffs and the shoe device provide the medical device with atraumatic surfaces and a streamlined profile and wherein the shoe device permits the converging struts to slide with respect of each other.

C¹ Claim 2 (previously presented): The device of claim 1, the first cuff further comprising an annular space.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The device of claim 2, wherein the first cuff is configured to receive a portion of the body portion and to engage both an interior and an exterior segment of the body portion.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The device of claim 1, the second cuff further comprising an annular space.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The device of claim 4, wherein the second cuff is configured to receive a portion of the body portion and to engage both [[in]] an interior and an exterior segment of the body portion.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The device of claim 1, wherein the first cuff is configured to reside within an interior of the body portion.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The device of claim 1, wherein the second cuff is configured to reside within an interior of the body portion.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The device of claim 1, wherein the body portion is radially collapsible and the first and second cuffs cooperate to collapse with the body portion.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The device of claim 1, wherein the first and second cuffs are sutured to the body.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The device of claim 1, wherein the first and second cuffs are made from graft material.

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Claim 11 (previously presented): The device of claim 10, wherein the graft material is PTFE.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The device of claim 10, wherein the graft material is PE.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The device of claim 1, wherein the shoe device provides the body portion with structural integrity.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The device of claim 1, wherein the shoe device is formed from a plastic material.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The device of claim 1, the shoe device further comprising a plurality of through holes which are sized to receive a section of strut.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The device of claim 15, wherein the plurality of through holes extend through a length of the shoe device.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The device of claim 1, the shoe device further comprising a plurality of through holes, wherein the plurality of holes have blind ends.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The device of claim 1, wherein the shoe device is configured at converging struts located at a medial portion of the body portion.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A medical device, comprising:

a body portion having a first end portion and a second end portion and being defined by a structure including a plurality of pairs of converging struts;

a first cuff, the first cuff being attached to the first end portion;

a second cuff, the second cuff being attached to the second end portion; and

at least one shoe device, the shoe device being configured at one pair of converging struts to maintain the struts in a spaced relationship;

wherein the first and second cuffs provide the medical device with atraumatic surfaces

C¹ and a streamlined profile and wherein the shoe device permits the converging struts to slide with respect to each other.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A medical device, comprising:

a body portion having a first end portion and a second end portion and being defined by a structure including a plurality of pairs of converging struts; and

at least one shoe device, the shoe device being configured at one pair of converging struts to maintain the struts in a spaced relationship;

wherein the shoe device provides the medical device with atraumatic surfaces and structural integrity and wherein the shoe device permits the converging struts to slide with respect to each other.

Claim 21 (canceled)

Claim 22 (canceled)

Claim 23 (canceled)